

# EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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## PRESS RELEASE

### VISIT OF THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UN AGENCIES IN ROME CONCLUDES



U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations agencies in Rome, Gaddi Vasquez (*left*), and USAID Mission Director Denise Rollins visiting a factory in Jessore, which produces high energy biscuits for WFP feeding programs

**DHAKA, April 3** – Ambassador Gaddi Vasquez, the eighth U.S. Representative to the United Nations Organizations in Rome, completed his visit to Bangladesh today. The team of reporters that accompanied the Ambassador represented Iraq, Italy, India, Morocco, Qatar and Bangladesh. The group's program included briefings in Dhaka by the U.N. food and agriculture organizations WFP, FAO, and IFAD. The group then traveled to rural communities in cyclone Sidr-affected parts of the country to observe how the United States, international organizations, and NGOs are working together to strengthen partnerships for food security in a region that was devastated during last year's cyclone. Sites included a WFP-sponsored emergency food distribution site, emergency school feeding program, and a forum with community residents in Morelganj Upazila. The group also observed a FAO-sponsored seed distribution site in Bagerhat District and IFAD-funded livelihood projects in Gopalganj. Participants also had an opportunity in Khulna to learn about USAID-funded community empowerment programs with religious leaders as well as take part in an Avian Influenza training program for local livestock and public health professionals.

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Ambassador Vasquez's impressions of his trip are available on his blog at [http://blogs.state.gov/index.php/entries/talking\\_about\\_food/](http://blogs.state.gov/index.php/entries/talking_about_food/).

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**GR/ 2008**

*Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: [DhakaPA@state.gov](mailto:DhakaPA@state.gov); Website: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>*